STATE OF VERMONT

HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

In re	Fair	Hearing	No.	15,270
)			
Appeal of)			

INTRODUCTION

The petitioner appeals the decision by the Department of Social Welfare finding him eligible for \$40 a month in Food Stamps. The issue is whether the Department's calculations are in accord with the pertinent regulations.

FINDINGS OF FACT

The facts are not in dispute. The petitioner lives alone and rents a room in an apartment for which he pays \$366 a month, heat and utilities included. His income is \$558.91 a month from Social Security and SSI.

Effective November 1, 1997, the Department raised the petitioner's Food Stamps from \$21 to \$40 a month based on the petitioner's eligibility for a nominal fuel assistance check, which triggered a higher standard allowance under Food Stamps for fuel and utilities.

The petitioner does not dispute any of the information used by the Department in determining his Food Stamps, but he believes other people in his circumstances are receiving more.

<u>ORDER</u>

The Department's decision is affirmed.

REASONS

Based on the petitioner's income and expenses, it appears that the Department correctly calculated the amount of his Food Stamps. See Procedures Manual \ni P-2590 A. Therefore, the Department's decision must be affirmed. 3 V.S.A. 3091 (d) and Fair Hearing Rule No. 17.

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